

f) the releasable attachments allow individual elements to be released by moving an element in a direction generally perpendicular to the membranes.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the releasable attachments include a track and slider mechanism between the frame and the upper headers to allow the upper headers to be slid from the frame.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the track and slider mechanism is adapted to support the element whenever at least about one quarter of the upper header is inserted into the frame.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the headers are elongated in shape and the frame holds the headers in a generally horizontal orientation when the membranes are immersed in the tank.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the releasable attachments between at least one end of the headers having a permeate channel and the frame are made through one or more permeate collection tubes.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the elements are attached to the frame in a back to back configuration separated by permeate collection tubes connected to the one or more permeate channels of the elements.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein connections between the permeate channels and one or more permeate collection tubes attached to the frame are releasable and resealable connections which are made or broken automatically by the movements involved in attaching an element to the frame or removing an element from the frame.